

Message

From: Mitchell, Peter J (IHS/PHX) [Peter.Mitchell@ihs.gov]
Sent: 2/22/2013 3:08:26 PM
To: Hamilton, John (IHS/PHX) [John.Hamilton@ihs.gov]
CC: brad.rea@ihs.gov; VanVleet, Joshua (IHS/PHX) [joshua.vanvleet@ihs.gov]; Lorenz, Robert (IHS/PHX) [Robert.Lorenz@ihs.gov]; Lee, Bessie [Lee.Bessie@epa.gov]; PERKINS, SUSANNE [Perkins.Susanne@epa.gov]; Matson, Eric (IHS/PHX) [Eric.Matson@ihs.gov]; Felter, Marcus J (IHS/PHX) [Marcus.Felter@ihs.gov]
Subject: RE: Conference Call Summary, Hopi Water Infrastructure Projects, February 6, 2013
Attachments: Bowers Gen. Quote revised \$31,800..doc

Hello,

I saw the note about standby generators below. Here's some information on the generator that we ordered for the VUMC a few years ago.

Thought this might be of help.

Have a nice day,

Pete

From: Hamilton, John (IHS/PHX)
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2013 3:19 PM
To: Bessie Lee; Lionel Puhuyesva
Cc: agashwazra@hth.org; csasipaulovi@gmail.com; aahownewa@hopi.nsn.us; asiewe_3@yahoo.com; sdcadmin@hopitelecom.net; bjsecakuku@yahoo.com; Rea, Brad (IHS/PHX); Bruce Fredricks; Carmelita Coochyumptewa; celestine.pablo@bia.gov; ctawahongva@songoopavi.org; kanzawindkaw@yahoo.com; chonyumptewa@hopi.nsn.us; cristal_a._quinn@hud.gov; david.talayumptewa@bie.edu; ecal@moenkopidevelopers.com; Matson, Eric (IHS/PHX); Everett Calnimptewa; gpoley4@yahoo.com; garlyn.navakuku@bie.edu; gshonanie@hopi.nsn.us; glenn.allison@bie.edu; Jacquelyn Lamson; jcharnholm@rcac.org; john.gravesjr@bia.gov; John.Krause@bia.gov; jplomakema@yahoo.com; VanVleet, Joshua (IHS/PHX); Kathlene Sumatzkuku; kerry.brough@ghd.com; sieweyumptewa@hotmail.com; Leroy Sumatzkuku; Reeves.Linda@epamail.epa.gov; lnaseyowma@frontiernet.net; Felter, Marcus J (IHS/PHX); Mary Navanick; Melvin.Todacheene@bia.gov; mlomaomvaya@hopi.nsn.us; michael.janes@ghd.com; Mitchell, Peter J (IHS/PHX); wittsellp@yahoo.com; randy@experiencehopi.com; rcharley@hopi.nsn.us; Lorenz, Robert (IHS/PHX); mahkewajr@yahoo.com; tsivookvasa@yahoo.com; Ronalyn Outie-Rios; royce_jenkins@hopi.nsn.us; srshingoitewa@gmail.com; shonanie@hopi.nsn.us; s-mheaton@centurylink.net; secakuku@hopitelecom.net; Perkins.Susanne@epamail.epa.gov; umowa@hopi.nsn.us; UpperMoenkopi@yahoo.com; Wendell.Honanie@bia.gov; yday@hopi.nsn.us; Yvonne Hoosava; Loretta Orona; Mike Luecker
Subject: Conference Call Summary, Hopi Water Infrastructure Projects, February 6, 2013

Bessie and Lionel,

Here is a summary of the February 6, 2013 monthly conference call regarding Hopi infrastructure projects. The next call is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2013 and Bessie will provide the agenda and call-in phone number.

Participants:

Upper Village of Moenkopi...Gov. Sam Shingoitewa, Randy Wolff, Yvonne Hoosava
Sipaulovi...Susan Secakuku, Bonnie Secakuku, Maysa Natoni
Hopi Tribe...Clayton Honyumptewa, Micah Lomaomvaya, Gayl Honanie, Phyllis Wittsell and Uberta Mowa
Consultants...Kerry Brough, Mike Janes, Sherwin Heaton, and Notah Ranger
USDA...Mike Luecker
HUD...Cristal Quinn
IHS...Josh Van Vleet, Marcus Felter, Peter Mitchell, Brad Rea and Eric Matson
EPA...Bessie Lee, Susanne Perkins and John Hamilton

Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP):

IHS engineering staff along with Lionel, Royce Jenkins and George Mace from the Hopi Tribe's Energy Task Team met with NTUA regarding a proposed electrical extension from NTUA's power lines near the Hardrocks community on the Navajo Nation to the HAMP wells and to the proposed Tawa'ovi development. NTUA apparently has capacity to serve the HAMP wells, but may not have the current capacity to serve anticipated power needs for Tawa'ovi. NTUA would need a power upgrade before they can consider serving Tawa'ovi. IHS was also planning to approach APS for power related needs for the booster station near Second Mesa.

George Mace had said the Hopi Tribe will handle negotiations with a power provider for the HAMP, and requested that IHS and Hopi WRP project managers cease further discussions with NTUA at the present time due to the fact the Tribe is negotiating with APS on issues related to a power transmission line. Several participants on the call thought this APS negotiation may take 6 months or longer. We were working with the Tribe to apply for a HUD CDBG grant next month to fund all or part of the NTUA power line for HAMP and Tawa'ovi, but with the uncertainty about both NTUA capacity and ongoing negotiations with APS, the Tribe's CDBG application(s) will be completed for other projects. EPA is concerned the delay regarding arranging power for the HAMP wells may jeopardize funding in the interim and potentially affect completion of the HAMP and the provision of safe water by the EPA deadline of January 23, 2015. It seems that EPA will take formal enforcement action against the villages (and Tribe?) if the HAMP is not completed and in operation by the deadline. This could include financial penalties? Other potential EPA SDWA enforcement actions may include more rigid attention to compliance milestones.

IHS indicated the wells, booster stations and other electrical needs could be operated using the standby electrical generators for the short term. The electrical generators would need to be totally reliable, including both the continuity of fuel (propane) and the maintenance and upkeep of the generators. It may be advisable to have an experienced contractor fueling and maintaining the equipment, since trouble shooting electrical problems can be challenging.

Sipaulovi is working on a HUD CDBG application and the village is considering applying for funds to complete the HAMP water main connecting the Upper and Lower Sipaulovi water systems, since this connection could be put in operation and benefit both the Upper and Lower communities and a proposed new 15 acre village economic development project. The village is calling for a meeting with IHS engineers and HUD to discuss the scope of the potential HUD project. HUD indicated there are several "tribal enforcement" issues that will need to be resolved before HUD approves another CDBG application.

Both Hopi and Navajo are experiencing water emergencies related to cold weather and freezing residential water lines. In some remote areas, water may be unavailable for several months.

The well drilling contract has been executed by the contractor and is now awaiting approval and signature by the Tribe. IHS is hoping the contract can be awarded shortly, so the contractor can receive the Notice to Proceed and begin work.

Hopi cultural preservation staff are working on completing the HAMP cultural report, which should be completed by February 15. The IHS environmental consultant, Marron and Associates will finish the draft environmental assessment (EA) immediately upon receipt of the cultural report. Then after review of the completed draft report by IHS, it will be forwarded to cooperating agencies including the Tribe, BIA, EPA, HUD, BOR, and USDA for review. The EA is intended to meet the NEPA requirements of all the agencies, so early review is essential. If we have the draft EA reviewed by late March, IHS should be in a position to get the final document out for a 30 day public review in early to mid-April.

There are three key ingredients needed for the Hopi Tribe's USDA Rural Development grant and loan application:

- the completed PER
- the strategic plan, and
- the EA

IHS and Hopi WRP met with the Hopi Tribal Council in October to review the proposed HAMP project with emphasis on the strategic plan. The attached IHS memo addressed to members of the Tribal Council, dated October 9, 2012, details issues from the draft strategic plan that need consideration and decisions by the Council.

Hopi legal staff are taking the lead in a workgroup developing documentation needed for the formation of a tribal utility, which could operate the HAMP. IHS engineering staff and their consultant for the strategic plan, GHD, have offered technical assistance, but have yet to be brought into the process. This workgroup is separate from the "task team" that had been requested by the Council subsequent to the above referenced HAMP meeting with the Council in October. IHS will request another meeting with the Council to discuss the proposed tribal utility and issues related to the strategic plan.

Micah mentioned the scope of tribal utility is envisioned to be a separate tribal department, reporting to the Hopi Executive Director. There is a question about how broad a range of responsibilities and services this department will have? For example, will the department be responsible for water, sewer, electricity, telephone, propane, solid waste and/or other utilities? IHS suggested it may be best to have the utility focus on water first, as they get into operation. This is partially due to the EPA enforcement action and the related time-critical need for water that meets the SDWA. The utility department could add other services as they gain experience.

USDA-RD has started reviewing the HAMP PER and they plan to provide comments to IHS and Hopi WRP within the next few weeks. The Arizona office received the first FY13 allocation of project grant and loan funds and there are tribal set-aside funds administered at the National level. So if IHS and the Tribe can complete all the above documents and forward an application for funding to USDA, there may be a chance of getting some funding this fiscal year.

Shungopavi Project:

Schaum and Sons are nearing completion of the contract for water appurtenances to complete the DWTSA project. They need to get an electrical transformer set and repair water tank backflow preventer leaks that had resulted from frost damage.

Gene resigned February 1st and there are no apparent staff in the Shungopavi community services department. We will work with staff in the Chairman's office until the village has either hired a permanent CSA or appointed an acting CSA. GHD is helping with the Schaum contract and they will work with Leslie and Lionel.

EPA funds will be used for a 2000 LF extension of the Shungopavi water system north along SR 264 as part of the HAMP project. While this water line is funded, installation will not begin until the pipe line is designed, easements are secured from ADOT, local traditional leadership approves the alignment and NEPA documents are completed. We discussed whether this work should be added by contract modification to the above referenced Schaum contract, which will not expire until December. The other options would include having the work completed by NECA or waiting to include the pipe line in the bigger HAMP contract(s) for economy of scale.

Upper Moenkopi Water and Wastewater:

EPA's new wastewater compliance officer, Susanne Perkins, participated on the monthly call for the first time. She is an engineer and had worked about 12 years for EPA in the Brownfields program and with Tribes in CA and AZ. She is in the process of getting oriented regarding compliance issues at Upper Moenkopi. The CWA Compliance Office will be part of EPA's new Enforcement Division effective February 11, 2013.

MDC continues to operate both the water and wastewater utilities. While the wastewater treatment plant is being operated in compliance with their discharge permit, there was a problem with a micro-switch failure, which was repaired by the operators. There is a runoff and sewage effluent catchment pond on site, which the village would like to level. A field visit report prepared by Roberto had indicated the pond had been used to contain sewage, so excavation will need to take this into consideration.

The village is interested in reuse of treated wastewater effluent for crop irrigation. Susanne will forward information to consider as the village moves forward with wastewater reuse. There are no directly applicable EPA regulations for Indian Country, so perhaps the Tribe and village may want to utilize Arizona DEQ regulations, even though the State has no legal jurisdiction. MDC would also like to consider using hotel grey water for irrigation of vegetation onsite.

The village council, MUA representatives and MDC met on January 29, 2013 to consider future operational alternatives for the water and wastewater systems, which have been operated by MDC since last summer. The village decided to temporarily disband the MDC Board, probably for the next year or so. Then the village would like to solicit new MUA Board members. During the next year, while the MUA Board is suspended, MDC and the village will share responsibilities. Susanne said MUA is the current NPDES discharge permit holder, and asked that the village complete an EPA notification form if MUA is no longer responsible for operation of the plant. Even though there is no MUA Board, the village would like to hold MUA responsible for operations, with the understanding the Council and MDC will provide assistance. MUA currently has three employees that will be running the water and wastewater plants, with technical assistance from GHD (Notah). The three employees would prefer to work for MDC, because benefits are better. Susanne asked who the official contact person would be for MUA and the permit and the Governor Shingoitewa volunteered.

A water/sewer rate increase from \$35/month/house to \$45/month/house was approved by the Village Council. Previously rates for commercial users had been tripled. It seems likely these higher rates will be insufficient to fully fund operating costs for water and wastewater, so MDC may need to continue to provide supplemental funding. It's critical for both utilities that needed maintenance and repair be accomplished in a timely manner so the wastewater plant does not fall into

disrepair, with discharges of sewage to the environment and to assure an ample supply of drinking water to the community and to MDC's restaurants, hotel, convenience store, car wash and the planned 60 unit apartment complex. The new water storage tank will provide some buffer, but during summer the three wells and the RO water treatment plant will be marginal at best. GHD completed another review of the water source capacity vs. demand and they believe the system can be successful, even with 60 new apartment units, but it's likely there is little or no margin for error, such as prolonged power outage, well or treatment plant pump failure, major water main break or other significant water demand. The three wells need redundancy, but alternative well locations are not readily available. Getting the last few residential water meters installed and moving the community to a metered rate billing is advised.

The RO water treatment plant is being operated by MDC 3 days/week and there are no apparent operational problems. One of the wells had to be reset, probably as a result of a minor electrical problem. There have been some residential problems resulting from cold temperatures and freezing of plumbing throughout the Hopi Reservation, including Moenkopi. Manufactured and mobile homes seem to be experiencing most of the freeze problems, probably as a result of insufficient insulation of water lines and exposure, since many of these homes are elevated above grade.

Ronalyn is responsible for all safe drinking water act compliance monitoring. Some compliance data for late 2012 has not yet been submitted to EPA.

MDC plans to start construction of the new water storage tank in early March. Engineering is underway for design of the connection piping and electrical controls. The tank project will include a new dedicated water transmission line from the well house to the tank.

John Hamilton, PE
EPA Engineering Consultant